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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	09/970,389-Conf. #9683
<i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Filing Date	October 2, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Donald J. Merkley
		Art Unit	1791
		Examiner Name	M. Halpern
Sheet	1	of	2
		Attorney Docket Number 129843-1022	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B1*	EP-0331666-A1	09-06-1989	Eternit Werke Hatschek L et al.		
	B2*	JP-60-118658	06-26-1985	Matsushita Electric Works Ltd.		
	B3*	JP-08-260371	10-08-1996	Alcell Technologies Inc.		
	B4*	JP-2000-044302	02-15-2000	Nichiba Corp		
	B5*	EP 0716182	06-12-1996	Alcell Technologies Inc.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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